

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-20 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an optical fiber base material employing ~~the OVD~~ an outside vapor deposition process, in which a burner is relatively reciprocated against and along an initial material to deposit glass fine particles on said initial material to produce ~~[[an]]~~ said optical fiber base material, said method comprising ~~steps of~~:

relatively reciprocating said burner and said initial material; and

stopping said relative reciprocation in a predetermined period only at ~~returning~~ turning positions of said relative reciprocation thereof.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 1, wherein the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period is no less than 3 seconds and no more than 60 seconds.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 1, wherein, in the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation, combustion gas is decreased.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 1 wherein, in the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation, ~~[[the]]~~ an amount of material gas is increased.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 1, wherein one of ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition period, ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition weight, ~~[[or]]~~ and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and wherein the stopping predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed continuously depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 1, wherein one of ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition period, ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition weight, ~~[[or]]~~ and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and wherein the stopping predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed step-by-step depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 5, wherein, if ~~[[the]]~~ a diameter of said optical fiber base material increases, ~~said certain~~ a period in which said burner stops is extended.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 7, wherein, if said deposition period increases, said ~~certain~~ period~~[[,]]~~ in which said burner stops~~[[,]]~~ is extended.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 7, wherein, if said deposition weight increases, said ~~certain~~ period~~[[,]]~~ in which said burner stops~~[[,]]~~ is extended.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 7, wherein, if the ~~number~~ amount of relative reciprocation increases, said ~~certain~~ period[[,]] in which said burner stops[[,]] is extended.

11. (Currently Amended) An optical ~~Optical~~ fiber base material which is ~~made~~ manufactured according to ~~in one of the method of methods of manufacturing optical fiber base material~~ according to claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 2, wherein, in the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation, combustion gas is decreased.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 2, wherein, in the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation, [[the]] an amount of material gas is increased.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 3, wherein, in the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation, [[the]] an amount of material gas is increased.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 2, wherein one of [[the]] a deposition period, [[the]] a deposition weight, [[or]] and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and

wherein the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed continuously depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 3, wherein one of ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition period, ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition weight, ~~[[or]]~~ and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and

wherein the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed continuously depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 2, wherein one of ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition period, ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition weight, ~~[[or]]~~ and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and

wherein the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed step-by-step depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 3, wherein one of ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition period, ~~[[the]]~~ a deposition weight, ~~[[or]]~~ and an amount ~~the number~~ of relative reciprocation is primarily set as a condition, and

wherein the ~~stopping~~ predetermined period during the relative reciprocation is changed step-by-step depending on said ~~determined~~ condition.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the optical fiber base material according to claim 6, wherein, if ~~[[the]]~~ a diameter of said optical fiber base material increases, ~~said certain~~ a period in which said burner stops is extended.

20. (Currently Amended) An optical ~~Optical~~ fiber base material which is ~~made~~ manufactured
according to in one of the method of ~~methods of manufacturing optical fiber base material~~
~~according to~~ claim 2.